

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 0661

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, GE, WB
SUBJECT: STOBBE ON GDR INTERFERENCE WITH BERLIN TRANSIT

1. AT USUAL MONTHLY MEETING WITH COMMANDANTS 20 MARCH,
GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE SAID THAT WHETHER OR NOT WISCHNEWSKI'S
VISIT TO EAST BERLIN HAD INDUCED GDR TURNAROUND ON STOPPING
TRAVELLERS ON SUSPICION OF MISUSE OF TRANSIT WAYS (STOBBE
THINKS THIS PROBABLY THE CASE), THERE HAS BEEN A VERY
MARKED SCALEDOWN. SENAT FIGURES SHOW 280 CASES IN JANUARY,
24 IN FEBRUARY, AND ONLY 5 SO FAR IN MARCH.

2. ASKED WHETHER SCALEDOWN POSSIBLY RELATED TO GDR-FRG
DIFFERENCE OF VIEW OVER LUMP-SUM AMOUNT TO BE PAID FOR
SUCH TRAVEL, STOBBE SAID HE DOUBTED IT. THERE IS A DIF-
FERENCE OF DM 35 MILLION AT PRESENT, BASED ON
DIFFERING GDR AND FRG METHODS OF COUNTING TRAFFIC. STOBBE
SAID GAUS TOLD HIM RECENTLY THAT HE IS RECOMMENDING
FRG PAY THE 35 MILLION THIS TIME, PROVIDED GDR ACCEPTS
USE OF FRG COUNTING METHODOLOGY FOR NEXT ROUND OF
NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT. GEORGE

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